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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Confirmation No.: 9153

TAKAO SAITO et al.

Attorney Docket: 28953.2003

Application No.: 10/774,454

Group Art Unit: 1762

Filed: February 10, 2004

Examiner: Turocy, David P.

For: THIN FILMS AND A METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building,
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 26, 2007

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 11, 2007, applicants hereby provisionally elect, with traverse, to prosecute the claims of Group I (claims 1-4) in the present application.

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement since the subject matter of all of claims 1-4 is sufficiently related that a thorough and complete search for the subject matter of the elected claims would necessarily encompass a thorough and complete search for the subject matter of the non-elected claims. Thus, search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 which states that "[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits." This policy should apply in the present application to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

T. SAITO et al
Serial No. 10/774,454
Atty. Dkt: 28953.2003

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees due in connection with this
Response to Deposit Account 19-4293.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger W. Parkhurst", written over a horizontal line.

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